White Paper on Article 356

†4038. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any political party has suggested Government to have a general discussion in the Parliament and issue white paper regarding Article 356;

(b) If so, the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government are considering seriously to bring white paper in the Parliament regarding Article 356; and

(d) if so, whether a general consensus has been formed in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) Article 356 has been the subject matter of discussion in the meetings of the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council. In the sixth meeting of the Standing Committee, the subject was remitted to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh and Finance Minister of West Bengal under the Convenorship of the Union Defence Minister. The matter was also discussed in the fifth meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 22nd January, 1999 in which it was decided that the Sub-Committee under the Convenorship of the Union Defence Minister should continue deliberations to evolve a consensus.

The Inter-State Council is yet to take a final view in the matter.

Indigenous Telemedicine Field Unit

4039. DR.Y.LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Defence organisation in Hyderabad successfully tested indigenous tele-medicine field unit;

(b) if so, the details of medical facilities to be made available through telemedicines; and

(c) the benefits to general public through this facility?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.